

## Community resources

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*courage is contagious*

## Viewing cable 08REYKJAVIK173, TFGG01: ICELAND ON RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES IN GEORGIA

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

### Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

### Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#08REYKJAVIK173**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
<a href="#">08REYKJAVIK173</a>	<a href="#">2008-08-14 17:22</a>	<a href="#">2011-08-30 01:44</a>	<a href="#">CONFIDENTIAL</a>	<a href="#">Embassy Reykjavik</a>

Appears in these articles:

[http://rusrep.ru/article/2010/11/29/wikileaks\\_docs\\_02/](http://rusrep.ru/article/2010/11/29/wikileaks_docs_02/)

VZCZCXRO0934  
PP RUEHAG RUEHROV  
DE RUEHRK #0173 2271722  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 141722Z AUG 08  
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3764  
INFO RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 0250  
RUEHXP/ALL NATO POST COLLECTIVE  
RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 000173

SIPDIS

E.O. 12985: DECL: 08/14/2018  
TAGS: [MOPS](#) [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [NATO](#) [UN](#) [GG](#) [RS](#) [IC](#)  
SUBJECT: TFGG01: ICELAND ON RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES IN GEORGIA

REF: State 87254

Classified by Ambassador Carol van Voorst for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

1. (SBU) In discussion of the current situation in Georgia with Political Director Greta Gunnarsdottir, the highest available MFA official, the Ambassador urged August 14 that Iceland press Russia to take the necessary steps detailed in reftel. Gunnarsdottir will raise

the message with the Foreign Minister asap. In response to the Ambassador's questions, Gunnarsdottir offered following observations:

- Humanitarian aid: Iceland was specifically asked for and will provide "very quickly" an information officer to work for UNICEF in Georgia. The government is considering other humanitarian contributions, but has as yet reached no specific decisions. Ambassador detailed U.S. contributions and pressed for a speedy and positive decision to help meet the increasing humanitarian needs of the region.
- NAC Meeting August 19 in Brussels: Foreign Minister Ingibjorg Solrun Gisladdottir will attend, accompanied by Amb. Thorir Ibsen, MFA head of NATO affairs.
- Icelandic-Russian contacts: Iceland has not approached Russia bilaterally on Georgia developments, preferring to deal with the subject in multilateral fora. Ambassador made the case for direct bilateral engagement, noting that Iceland does have an Embassy in Moscow and that the Russian ambassador in Reykjavik has made intemperate and misleading remarks to the press concerning Georgia's leadership and regional intentions. (Note: We understand that the MFA had considered but decided not to call in the Russian ambassador.)

12. (C) Ambassador has requested a meeting with Permanent Secretary Gretar Mar Sigurdsson, Gunnarsdottir's boss, on his return from leave next week to raise Iceland's uninspiring stance in the recent NAC meetings on Georgia. Although we suspect the GOI is trying to avoid irritating the Russians in advance of the October vote on Iceland's bid for a UNSC seat, we want to point out that stepping up in a necessary cause is the type of behavior the U.S. looks for in a UNSC member.

van Voorst